

COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AND METHOD

ABSTRACT

5 A communications system (1) includes a plurality of
nodes (2). Each node (2) has receiving means for receiving
a signal transmitted by wireless transmitting means;
transmitting means for wireless transmission of a signal;
and, means for determining if a signal received by said
10 node (2) includes information for another node (2) and
causing a signal including said information to be
transmitted by said transmitting means to another node (2)
if said received signal includes information for another
node (2). Each node (2) has a substantially unidirectional
15 point-to-point wireless transmission link (3) with at least
one other node (2) such that each node (2) can transmit a
signal to at least one other node (2). At least some of
the nodes (2) have plural substantially unidirectional
point-to-point wireless transmission links (3). Each link
20 (3) between respective pairs of nodes (2) is associated
with a distinct time slot. The nodes (2) are linked so as
to form transmission path loops thereby to provide plural
choices of path for the transmission of a signal between at
least some of the nodes (2). Each loop consists of an even
25 number of links (3).